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# WEST BANK/GAZA

## FACT SHEET

### DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE OFFICE

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### Peace and Reconciliation Program: Youth Voices for Community Action (YVCA)

JUNE 2010



*A young man from Nablus taking part in YVCA adventure camp activities*

#### CHALLENGES

- Need for non-violent approaches to conflict mitigation.
- Overcoming cultural sensitivities to ensure the integration of female participants from the West Bank and Gaza in the program.

#### CONTACT INFO

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#### Project Overview

Youth Voices for Community Action (YVCA) is part of a larger Conflict Management and Mitigation small-grant program that brings together individuals of different ethnic, religious, and/or political backgrounds in people-to-people activities that address the root causes of tension and instability.

#### Goals

- Empower and create a cadre of Palestinian youth who use nonviolent approaches to address conflicts within their own communities.

#### Activities

The YVCA program will build the capacity of Palestinian youth between the ages of 18-25 in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The program will conduct six adventure camps in six locations to train 360 youth in nonviolent responses to conflict.

It will also conduct three national level meetings to provide platforms for youth to voice their concerns and issues of conflict to their leaders as well as produce local-level context analysis reports to share with local/national leaders and institutions, as well as international organizations.

#### Successes

- Implemented a pilot adventure camp and applied lessons learned to the design of five other adventure camps.
- Conducted youth adventure camps in Jenin, Nablus and Bethlehem.
- Signed agreements with partner Palestinian local community-based organizations to enable them to support youth activities.

#### Project Detail

Implementing Partner: CRS, Life of Project: 09/30/2009-09/29/2012; Total Estimated Cost: \$1,120,000.